MINUTES

OF THE

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

VALLEY RIVER

Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Brush Creek Church, Swain Co., N. C.,

OCTOBER 4TH, 5TH AND 6TH, 1879.

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PROCEEDINGS.

BRUSH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH,
Swain County, N. C., Sept. 4th, 1879.

The Valley River Baptist Association assembled according to adjournment in its Eighteenth Annual Session.

Elder C. M. Green preached the Introductory Sermon from Matthew 11 : 11.

After a recess of 30 minutes the delegates reassembled in the church-house. Prayer by Elder J. S. Woodard.

The Association was called to order by Elder A. Ammons, the former Moderator.

Brethren T. C. Bryson and W. L. Dean were appointed Reading Clerks.

The roll of the churches was called, letters read and delegates enrolled as follows:

Brush Creek—Elders A. Ammons and J. R. Edwards, and brethren A. H. Welch, S. J. Freeman and H. M. M'Cann.

Cheoah—Elders C. M. Green and W. C. Morgan, and brethren G. W. Hooper, Wm. Pruett, Van Marcus, Sidney Rose, T. A. Carpenter and Wm. Carpenter.

Forney's Creek—T. C. Buckhanan, T. J. Montieth, J. L. Woody and W. B. Cole.

Cold Spring—Elders. J. P. Panther and J. M. Smiley, and brethren S. D. Davis, L. L. Thomason, Martin Dehart, J. A. Buckhanan, H. A. Cunningham, J. M. Earls, D. Whitesides, J. Whitesides and J. C. Milton.

Indian Creek—E. M. Bumgarner and A. W. Parris.

Panther Creek—Elders Y. Ammons and B. L. Morgan, and brethren J. A. Ammons, T. Y. Ammons and J. L. Hogue.

Tennessee River—J. A. Welch, W. A. Marcus, R. H. Crisp and Joseph Whitesides.

Stecoah—Elder P. G. Green and brethren Joel L. Crisp, W. D. Crisp, T. H. Caday and H. W. Crisp.

Valley River—Elder Wiley Phillips and brethren James Whitaker and R W. Adams.

Nantihala—Allen Freeman and J. W. Truett.

Tuskeega—W. A. Dorsey and P. Jenkins.

Buffalo—(Indian church)—Ah-qua-takih and Armstrong Cornsilk.

Red Marble, a newly constituted church, was on motion received as a member of this body, with Brother Richard Right as its messenger.

Corresponding Messengers from Tuckasiege Association were enrolled as follows: Elders E. D. Brendle, A. A. Justice, S. J. Woodard and J. T. S. Sherill and brethren W. L.

Dean, T. C. Bryson, P. R. Rickman, Edwards Wilson, G. W. Dean, S. M. Welch, Phillip Dills, D. S. Dills, Jno Ammons, J. W. Rickman, R. H. Hall, M. L. Rickman, N. J. Howard, G. W. Dillard, J. D. Franks and Josiah Talent.

Organized by re-electing Elder A. Ammons Moderator and W. D. Crisp Clerk.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

On Arrangements—James Whitaker, T. A. Carpenter, W. B. Cole, with the Moderator and Clerk.

On Preaching—S. D. Davis, A. H Welch, Joel L. Crisp and E. N. Bumgarner.

On Sabbath Schools—Elder C. M. Green, T. A. Carpenter and T. C. Bryson.

On Changes—Elder J P. Panther, L. L Thomason and W. A Dorsey.

On Finange—H. M. M'Cann, John M. Earls, and H. A. Cunningham

On Periodicals—Eld. C. M. Green, W. L. Dean and Eld. J. M. Smiley.

On Missions—Elders E. D Brendle, J. S. Woodard and P. G. Green.

On Education—Elder C. M Green, T. C. Bryson and T. A. Carpenter.

Adjourned till Friday morning at 9: 30 o'clock. Prayer by Elder P. G. Green.

SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

Friday, 9: 30 o'clock, A. M., Sept. 5th, 1879.

Met according to adjournment; one half hour was spent in devotional exercises, conducted by Wm. C. Morgan.

The roll was called and absentees noted.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The report of the Committee on Arrangements was read and adopted:

Corresponding Messengers to the Tuckasiege Association, which convenes with Coweter church, 7 miles west of Franklin, Macon county, on Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in August, 1880, as follows: Elders J. M. Smiley, P. G. Green, A. Ammons, J. R. Edwards, B. L. Morgan, J. P. Panther, and brethren L. L. Thomason, J. M. Earls, T. A. Carpenter, E. N. Bumgarner, A. W. Welch.

Report of the Missionaries was called for and received as follows:

Elder P. G. Green—Sermons preached, 30; exhortations, 20; conversions witnessed, 47; baptized, 24; miles traveled, about 100; labor done, 50 days; amount collected, $14.50.

Elder A. Ammons—Sermons preached, 15; baptized, 17; miles traveled, 60; amount collected, 00.

Elder C. M. Green—Days labored, 15.

The next meeting of this body will be held with Tennessee River church, Swain county, N. C., to convene on Thursday before the 1st Sabbath in September, 1880. Elder Wm. C. Morgan to preach the Introductory Sermon, and Elder P. G. Green as alternate.

Took a recess of 30 minutes. Benediction by the Moderator.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Met according to adjournment.

The report of the Trustees of the High School at Stecoah was read and adopted as follows:

We, the undersigned, Trustees of the High School of the Valley River Association, located at Stecoah, submit the following:

We met on the — day of —, 1878, and organized by electing Elder A. Ammons Chairman, and W. D. Crisp Secretary, and Joel L. Crisp Treasurer. We arranged tuition at 75 cents per scholar per month; and that all ministers recommended by their churches should have their tuition free. We obtained the services of Bro. W. L. Dean, at a salary of $25.00 per month for the first session, from February 4th to June 25th, 1879. We employed Bro V. E. Grant as assistant for 5 weeks, at a salary of $20 per month. The average daily attendance of the School was 29 $\frac{39}{50}$. The School gave general satisfaction, which brightens its prospects for the future. The untiring energy and efficient labors of the teacher will make it worthy of the support of the Association.

Respectfully submitted, A. AMMONS, Chairman.

The report of the Committee on Changes was read and adopted, as follows:

Your Committee on Changes submit the following:

We find that death has been in our midst and removed seven of our members, viz: Wm Bradshaw, of Forney's Creek, sister Easter Welch, of Brush Creek, sister Mary Collet, age 34 years, and brother Jessee Taylor, 94 years old and a consistent member of the church 65 years, both members of the Valley River church; sister Caroline Penley, of Stecoah, and brother Young Wolf and sister Obediah, of Buffalo, all of whom are gone to reap their reward, leaving many friends to mourn their absence. We would say to the bereaved friends, weep not; blessed are they that die in the Lord.

Elder J. P. Panther has been ordained to the ministry.

Respectfully submitted, J. P. PANTHER, Chairman.

The Committee on Finance reported $9.75 sent up by the various churches.

The report of the Committee on Periodicals was read and adopted, as follows:

There is no better means of obtaining religious instruction than reading our denominational papers. It is not expected that all of our people can go to School in order to obtain the necessary information, but we can all read our religious newspapers, and we would recommend the *Biblical Recorder*, a good paper, published at Raleigh, as being in every respect worthy of the patronage of our denomination This paper is published by Edwards, Broughton & Co , and edited by Rev. C T. Bailey. Also *The Baptist*, edited by Rev. J. R. Graves, of Memphis, Tenn. For Sunday Schools we recommend *Kind Words*, published by S. Boykin, at Macon, Ga. We also recommend the *Foreign Mission Journal.*

Respectfully submitted, C. M. GREEN, Chairman.

The report of the Committee on Missions was read and adopted, as follows:

Your Committee are glad to report that the spirit of missions yet lives in this part of the heritage of our God but pained to know that the destitution has not been reached, only for want of means. We find, from the reports of your missionaries, that some work has been done and good results followed; but the fields are yet white unto harvest, and it should be the prayer of every Christian heart that the Lord would send more laborers into his harvest. It is the command of our Lord to "Go into all the world and preach (or teach) the gospel to every creature," &c. But how is this command to be obeyed? Can the ministers do this work alone? They cannot. The Lord says the workman is worthy of his meat. Now, brethren, your missionaries need your co-operation in your prayers and in the use of your means Are you willing to help them in this way to preach the gospel to the destitute, and thereby render yourselves instruments in the salvation of souls to the glory of the great God? May God bless you and impress you with the importance of this work, is the prayer of your Committee.

Respectfully submitted J. T. WOODARD,
E. D. BRENDLE,
P. G. GREEN,
Committee.

On motion, the propriety of employing a missionary was considered, and after some remarks Elder P. G. Green was elected as a missionary to labor in the Valley River Association.

On motion, T. C. Bryson, J. D. Franks and T. A. Carpenter were appointed to advise some plan of raising funds to pay the Missionary.

On motion, the Association adjourned till Saturday morning at 9 : 30 o'clock. Prayer by Elder A. A. Justice.

THIRD DAY—MORNING SESSION.

SATURDAY, 9 : 30 o'clock, Sept. 6th, 1879.

Met according to adjournment and spent half an hour in devotional exercises, conducted by Elder J. T. S. Sherrill.

The following resolution was presented by Elder C. M. Green, and on motion adopted:

WHEREAS, The success of our Associational School depends upon the benevolence of the churches; therefore

Resolved, That this Association appoint an active agent, whose business it shall be to travel and collect funds for, and work in the interest of, said School.

After some remarks Elder A. Ammons was appointed Agent for the above named purpose.

Bro. W. D. Crisp offered the following resolution, which on motion was adopted:

WHEREAS, Missionary labor was done during the past year that was not remunerated; therefore

Resolved, That after the second sermon is preached on the Sabbath a collection be taken and the amount cellected be divided among the missionaries according to the labor done by each of them.

Elder C. M Green offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That this Association recommend the organization of a Sunday School Convention at some suitable time and place in our bounds.

On motion, the Association recommended the churches to meet in Sunday School Convention with the Cheoah church on Friday before the 5th Sunday in November next.

The report of the committee to advise some plan of raising funds to pay the Missionary was read and on motion tabled indfinitely.

Brother T. A. Carpenter, the Historian, was called on to report, but on account of the churches failing to furnish him with the necessary information was unable to report. He was on motion continued as Historian.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools made the following report, which was adopted:

We think our churches, to a great extent, have failed to work in the Sunday Schcol. While some would consider the Sunday School an auxiliary to the church, we consider it the church at work, only doing its duty, laboring where all can do something. Great good has already been accomplished in the Sunday School. Many little children have been trained for heaven. Children are not only learning to go to Sunday School, but they are learning to love to go. Respectfully submitted,

T. C. BRYSON, Chairman.

On motion, a recess of one hour was taken. Benedictory prayer by Elder J. T. S. Sherrill.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The report of the Committee on Education was read, and after able speeches by Elder C. M. Green and Bro. G. W. Dillard, was adopted. (Report lost.)

A resolution of thanks for hospitality extended was offered by brother T. A. Carpenter and adopted.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet at the time and place before mentioned.

A. AMMONS,
Moderator.

W. D. CRISP,
Clerk.

NOTE—The Committee's report on Education is misplaced, and therefore will not appear in the Minutes.

The stand was occupied on Sunday by Elder J. S. Woodard; text, Hebrews 12: 1, 2; followed by Elder C. M. Green; text, Daniel 2: 44; after which a collection was taken up amounting to $7.65.

In the afternoon the stand was occupied by Elder E. D. Brendle; text, Psalms 48: 8.

STATISTICAL TALBLE.

NAMES OF CHURCHES.	Or. Ministers	Baptized.	Rec'd by Let.	Restored.	Dis'd by Let.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Total.	Contribution
Brush Creek,	2	20	..	4	1	2	1	70	1 00
Cheoah,	2	3	2	..	16	3	..	141	1 00
Cold Spring,	1	4	3	2	23	5	1	128	1 45
*Deep Creek,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Forney's Creek,	..	..	2	1	3	6	1	34	85
Holly Spring	1	14	10	1	4	1	..	55	71
Indian Creek	..	5	2	..	5	1	..	35	40
Panther Creek	..	2	2	..	5	..	..	21	50
Tennessee River	..	5	9	..	2	1	..	59	90
Stecoah	1	..	2	..	2	4	1	94	80
Valley River	1	16	4	1	20	.	2	58	1 00
Nantahala	..	..	.	..	..	1	..	10	25
Tuskeega	1	2	..	..	7	..	..	45	30
Red Marble	..	..	...	..	..	...	..	.....	30
Buffalo	1	1	..	..	..	2	2	48	30
*Not represented.	10	62	36	9	68	26	8	797	9 75